

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Previously Amended) An electronic device comprising:
an element-carrying-substrate having an electronic element and a first electrode, the first electrode being disposed on a surface of the element-carrying-substrate and having a first area;
a wiring substrate facing the element-carrying-substrate and having a second electrode disposed on a surface of said wiring substrate, the second electrode having a second area and facing the first electrode; and
a coupler disposed between the first electrode and the second electrode, joining the element-carrying-substrate to the wiring substrate, the coupler having a resin body, an electrically conductive member, and a surface comprising a resin region and an electrically conductive region electrically connecting the first electrode to the second electrode.
2. (Previously Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin region occupies from 20 to 80% of the surface of the coupler.
3. (Previously Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrically conductive member is a joining metal and the electrically conductive region includes the joining metal that is located on the surface of the coupler.
4. (Previously Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrically conductive member comprises a metal powder with a high melting point and the electroconductive region includes the metal powder that is located on the surface of the coupler, the metal powder being joined to a joining metal film.
5. (Previously Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrically conductive member comprises a metal strip layer joined to a joining metal film, the metal strip layer encircling the resin body as the electrically conductive region.
6. (Previously Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the metal strip layer has an opening disposed substantially at a center of the element carrying substrate and the wiring substrate.

7. (Previously Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin body is a thermosetting resin.

8. (Previously Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin body is a thermoplastic resin.

9. (Previously Amended) A coupler with a spherical shape comprising a blend of a joining metal and a resin, wherein the coupler includes a surface comprising an electrically conductive region formed by the joining metal and a resin region formed by the resin.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A The coupler with a spherical shape as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a resin body and a metal powder with a high melting point, the coupler having a surface comprising an electrically conductive region and a resin region,~~ wherein the metal powder that is located on the surface of the coupler is joined to a the joining metal-film to form the electrically conductive region.

Claim 11. (Cancelled).

12. (New) The coupler as claimed in claim 9, wherein the resin region occupies from 20 to 80% of the surface of the coupler.

13. (New) The coupler as claimed in claim 10, wherein the resin body is a thermosetting resin.

14. (New) The coupler as claimed in claim 10, wherein the resin body is a thermoplastic resin.

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed July 2, 2003, Applicants amend their application and request reconsideration. In this Amendment claim 11 is cancelled and claims 12-14 are added so that claims 1-10 and 12-14 are now pending.

Claim 10 has been rewritten in dependent form in this Amendment. New claims 12-14 are added. Those claims all depend from claim 9 and are derived from original claims 2, 7, and 8. Claim 9 is thus generic as to claims 10 and 12-14.

In the Official Action, the Examiner identified two species, the first species allegedly pertaining to Figure 2 and the second species pertaining to Figures 4A and 4B. Applicants respectfully traverse the species election requirement.

The species election requirement is one of the most confusing species election requirements that Applicants' representative has encountered considering the disclosed, claimed, and depicted subject matter. The species election requirement omits reference to any depicted and claimed subject matter that appears in many of the figures of the patent application, for example, Figures 1, 3A and 3B, and 5-13. Thus, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider the species election requirement and issue a new, substitute species election requirement taking into account all of the figures of the patent application and all of claimed subject matter.

Based upon the species identified by the Examiner, Applicants elect the alleged species 1 corresponding to Figure 2. The election is made with traverse. The traverse is based upon the failure of the Examiner to properly identify all species, if there are any species, in the referenced patent application. Applicants point out that claim 9 pertains to the embodiment of Figure 2 and thus claim 9 and its dependent claim 10 should be immediately examined.


Further, the elected species also encompasses claims 1-4, 7, and 8. The coupler described in claim 9 is clearly encompassed within the structure claimed in claims 1-4 and, therefore, those claims should also be examined along with claims 9 and 10. As described in the patent application, the resin within the coupler of claim 9 as well as the coupler of claim 1 can be either a thermosetting or a thermoplastic resin. Accordingly, claims 7 and 8 should also be examined.

Even if only claim 9 is examined, claims 10 and 12-14 must be examined or rejoined to the prosecution upon the allowance of claim 9. Further, since the subject matter of claim 9 is incorporated within claims 1-4, upon the allowance of claim 9, the more limited claims 1-4 must also be rejoined to the prosecution and allowed.

In re Appln. of TOYOSHIMA et al.
Application No. 10/014,886

Prompt and favorable action, either by the issuance of a new species election requirement or the examination of claims 9, 10, 12-14, 1-4, 7, and 8 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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